IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

IN THE APPLICATION OF:

QIONG CHENG ET. AL. CASE NO.: CL2385USNA

SERIAL NO.: 10/810733 GROUP ART UNIT: 1656

FILED: MARCH 26, 2004 EXAMINER: LEE, J

FOR: GENES ENCODING CAROTENOID COMPOUNDS

AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Introductory Comments

This is submitted in response to the Office Action dated 11/15/2006. Applicants respectfully request reconsideration and submit the following in support thereof. Please amend the application as follows: